

BLM CARSON CITY DISTRICT
RMP PLANNING FACT SHEET
Paleontological Resources

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The BLM Carson City District (CCD) is developing the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Carson City District planning area. The Carson City RMP will provide detailed information about the current state of resources on public lands within the planning area, and set forth a plan of action for managing those resources for the next twenty or so years under the BLM's multiple use mandate.

Paleontological resources are known for specific geologic areas throughout the Carson City District. Fossils are identified within geological units and are extensively distributed both vertically and horizontally. Fossils can take the form of actual fossilized remains as well as traces, tracks, or imprints of organisms that provide information about the history of life on earth. BLM manages these paleontological resources through various Federal laws, regulations, and BLM Manuals.

Antiquities Act of 1906:

- First legislation created to protect *any object of antiquity*, which is general interpreted to include fossil materials.

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 641 (Public money, property or records):

- Includes the taking of vertebrate fossils as theft of government property.

Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988:

- Address protection of significant caves and cave resources, including paleontological resources.

Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 2009:

- Requires the Secretary of the Interior to manage and protect paleontological resources on public land using scientific principles and expertise. To date, the Secretary has not issued regulations to carry out this Act.
- Requires that a paleontological resource may not be collected from public land without a permit.
- Directs agencies to begin to establish public awareness and education programs, and for inventorying and monitoring public lands for paleontological resources.
- Includes provisions allowing for casual or hobby collecting of common invertebrate and plant fossils without a permit on public lands, under certain conditions.



Department of the Interior, Secretarial Order:

Order No. 3104 (1984): *Issuance of Archaeological and Paleontological Permits.*

BLM Manual 8200 Series:

8270: "Paleontological Resource Management"

Handbook H-8270-1: "Paleontological Resource Management Handbook"

The BLM would like your input...

- Do you know of any vertebrate fossil finds or fossil beds within the planning area that you want protected?
- Do you know of any paleontological sites within the planning area that you want protected, interpreted, or developed for educational purposes?

Sites can include, but are not limited to:

Fossilized bone or plant

Fossilized invertebrate shells

Fossil traces, tracks, or imprints



CCD Planning Webpage:
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field.html

Comments can also be mailed to:
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